Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An anti-prying device to limit wedging and working of a prying element between a protrusion on a safe and a surface to which the safe is secured, the device comprising:

a member extending between the protrusion and the surface to restrict insertion of the prying element between the protrusion and the surface such that the prying element is substantially prevented from being wedgeable and workable between the protrusion and the surface to prevent uprooting the safe from its anchorings[.];

wherein the member includes a base portion and a rod, the rod being an elongated member that extends lengthwise away from the base portion in only a perpendicular direction, the rod being permanently secured to the base portion in a fixed position such that the rod is fixed lengthwise in an upward position to prevent the prying element from being inserted between the rod and the surface.

2. (Cancel) The device of claim 1 wherein the member comprises a base portion and a rod, the rod extending away from the base portion between the protrusion and the surface to restrict insertion of the prying element between the protrusion and the surface.

3. (Currently Amended) The device of claim [2] 1 wherein the member further comprises a number of apertures in the base and a number of anchors inserted through the apertures to secure the base to the surface.

4. (Original) The device of claim 3 wherein the anchors are non-removable bolts.

5. (Original) The device of claim 3 wherein the anchors are expandable bolts which are expanded against a hole in the surface to secure the bolts therein.

6. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the protrusion is a door hinge for pivotably opening a door of the safe, the member extended between the door hinge and the surface to restrict insertion of the prying element between the hinge and the surface without interfering with operation of the hinge.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the protrusion is a door hinge and the member includes a rod extending from a base co-axially with the door hinge and between the door hinge and the surface.

8. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the rod is sufficiently rigid to prevent being bent by a prying element relative to the axis of the door hinge.

9. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the rod is sufficiently dimensioned to cover an area between a safe door opened by the door hinge and an outer front portion of the door hinge to prevent a prying element from being inserted between the door and the rod.

10. (Original) A safe system, the system comprising:

a safe for receiving articles for safe-keeping, the safe including a door and a door hinge for pivotably opening the door for placing the articles within the safe, the safe being anchored to a surface;

an anti-prying device to limit wedging and working of a prying element between the door hinge and the surface, the device being anchored to the surface and including a member positioned between the door hinge and the surface to restrict insertion of the prying element between the door hinge and the surface to prevent stealing of the safe by prying up the door hinge to uproot the safe from its anchorings.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the member comprises a base portion and a rod, the rod extending away from the base portion between the door hinge and the surface to restrict insertion of the prying element between the door hinge and the surface.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10 further comprising a number of apertures in the base and a number of anchors inserted through the apertures to secure the base to the surface.

13. (Original) The device of claim 12 wherein the anchors are non-removable bolts.

14. (Original) The device of claim 12 wherein the anchors are expandable bolts which are expanded against a hole in the surface to secure the bolts therein.

15. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the member includes a rod extending co-axially with the door hinge between the door hinge and the surface.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the rod is sufficiently rigid to prevent being bent by a prying element relative to the axis of the hinge.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the rod is sufficiently dimensioned to cover an area between the safe door and an outer front portion of the door hinge to prevent a prying element from being inserted between the door and the rod.

18. (Original) A method for preventing stealing of a safe caused by inserting a prying element between a door hinge of the safe and a surface to which the safe is anchored, wherein the inserted prying element is then wedged and worked against the hinge and the surface to uproot the anchored safe such that the safe can then be carried away, the method comprising:

providing an anti-prying device having a base and a rod extending from the base;

aligning the anti-prying device such that the rod extends between the door hinge and the surface to restrict insertion of the prying element therebetween; and

anchoring the base to the surface once the anti-prying device is aligned.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein aligning the anti-prying element comprises co-axially aligning the rod with the door hinge.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising anchoring the base after anchoring the safe.

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1. One of the two number 38 references numerals has been changed to 36.